

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1834

Introduced by Assembly Member Brownley

February 22, 2012

An act to add Section 40182.5 to the Public Resources Code, relating to solid waste.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1834, as introduced, Brownley. Recycling: reusable bags.

The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989, as administered by the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, requires an operator of a store, as defined, to establish an at-store recycling program that provides customers the opportunity to return clean plastic carryout bags to that store and to make reusable bags available to customers. These requirements are repealed on January 1, 2013.

This bill would define the term “reusable bag” for purposes of the act.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 40182.5 is added to the Public Resources
- 2 Code, to read:
- 3 40182.5. “Reusable bag” means a bag with handles that is
- 4 specifically designed and manufactured for multiple reuse and
- 5 meets all of the following requirements:

- 1 (a) Has a minimum lifetime of 125 uses, which for purposes of
- 2 this subdivision, means the capability of carrying a minimum of
- 3 22 pounds 125 times over a distance of at least 175 feet.
- 4 (b) Has a minimum volume of 15 liters.
- 5 (c) Is machine washable or is made from a material that can be
- 6 cleaned or disinfected.
- 7 (d) Does not contain lead, cadmium, or any other heavy metal
- 8 in toxic amounts, as defined by applicable state and federal
- 9 standards and regulations for packaging or reusable bags.
- 10 (e) Has printed on the bag, or on a tag that is permanently affixed
- 11 to the bag, the name of the manufacturer, the location (country)
- 12 where the bag was manufactured, a statement that the bag does
- 13 not contain lead, cadmium, or any other heavy metal in toxic
- 14 amounts, and the percentage of postconsumer recycled material
- 15 used, if any.
- 16 (f) If made of plastic, is a minimum of at least 2.25 mils thick.